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*The Crucible* Anticipation/Reaction Guide Statement #4

Although there might or might not be one correct way to interpret the Bible, no one can really be certain. That is, since there are various kinds of religions that interpret the Bible in many different ways. Some people believe that there is only one Bible and many translations and that there is also only one God and many ways to worship him. There are various ways in which people interpret the Bible. One of those ways is personalizing, spiritualizing or symbolizing everything. People always look for spiritual meanings behind all the scriptures, analogies and parables. Usually each person comes up with their own spiritual view, which most likely depends on that person’s religious background and/or experiences. What ends up happening is that people speaking into God’s Word rather than allowing God’s Word to speak to them. Another very common method of interpretation is no method at all, and most people who don’t even interpret the Bible at all because they have their own instincts that tell them what they should believe. It’s possible that the ideas presented in the Bible could most likely depict the mind of God. Thus the Bible presents us with some sort of voice of God for just about any situation we could face. It is crucial that one should first attempt to understand this primary message before they can do anything else with the Bible. To understand this primary message, it is important to connect the cultural and historical gap between everyone and the original audience so that anyone has the capability to better understanding the circumstances they were facing. This would in turn help anyone to better understand the original message intended by the author. In so doing, we also better understand the mind of God as He interacted with the original audience. In other words, the interpretation of the Bible mostly means that we discover in the text the instructional intentions of the Holy Spirit, that in which what God wanted us to understand, trust, and obey. There can be a wealth of ideas that come from a passage, but none would contradict another, and none would contradict another passage of the Word. The Bible was designed to be ambiguous or adapt in many interpretations because not only did they want it to be timeless or stand to the test of time, but to also become universal, meaning that anyone can relate to it. No one can really say what is right or wrong either way because the Bible is one of those things that can never be proven or disproven since the text has been rewritten several times, so basically a person has to have faith in themselves and go with what they believe is right and there is more than one way to interpret the Bible because some Scriptures mean more than one thing as well. Plus, no one can ever change the words that are written in the Bible. Even though there are many beliefs and disbeliefs referring to the Bible, in the end there is never a right or wrong answer about it.

Works Cited:

* "If There Is Only One Bible Why Is That the Different Religionssee It so Many Different Ways ? This Is a Constant Arguementbetween Me and My Friend I Am a Christain Attendingnondemonation and He Is Church of Christ He States His Way Isthe Only Way HELP." *Answerbag*. N.p., n.d. Web. 13 Oct. 2013.